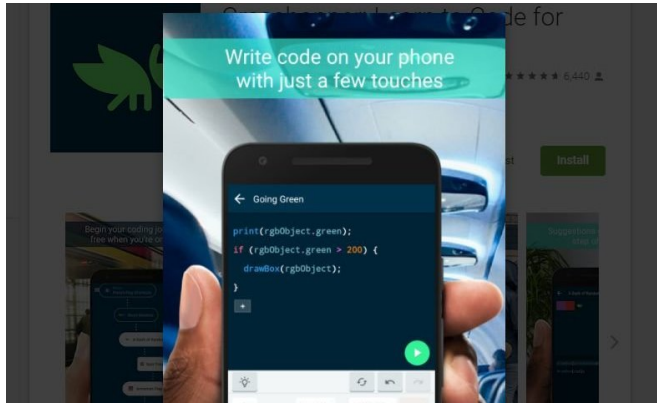


JavaScript for beginners: Grasshopper can teach coding

23 April 2018, by Nancy Owano



If you are new at coding and don't want to rearrange your life as a result—changing work hours, spending wads on formal courses—you may want to know about Grasshopper, a new way you can learn to write code on your phone.

The deal is this: A few taps on your [smartphone](#) and you are on your way to JavaScript. To get started you can head on over to the Google Play Store or iTunes App Store.

Grasshopper gets you on your coding way through puzzles and quizzes. This teacher app was launched through the Google incubator, Area 120, which is described as a workshop for experimental projects.

The coding app is for beginners and it is available for free on Android and iOS. Grasshopper's structure is such that it provides progressively challenging levels. In *9to5Google*, Justin Duino said it was similar to "how apps like Duolingo teach you how to learn a foreign language."

He described what it is like after signing in. You are walked through the basics of programming and

given several quizzes. Then comes more [subject](#) matter and exercises.

The App Store Preview remarks:

"The problem is that today's university-first approach is a bit old school, and frankly, out of touch. That's why Grasshopper offers a new kind of curriculum for the everyday [coder](#)."

If your learning tool can fit in your pocket, that implies it can fit in your lifestyle (do it on a work break or your train and bus commutes).

Grasshopper is an easy to remember and friendly name but the team called it as such for a different [reason](#). The [grasshopper](#)'s name is Grace which pays honor to Grace Hopper, an early pioneer in computer programming.

In turn, the team said Grasshopper comes from a passionate team concerned to help remove barriers to access to coding education.

Why JavaScript? JavaScript is a significantly popular programming language. "Grasshopper currently teaches using the popular programming language JavaScript, used by more than 70% of professional developers," said the Grasshopper team.

"When it comes to web development, JavaScript is always in the list of required skills, as it is one of the basic technologies for web development, just like HTML and CSS. Thus, JavaScript is [eating](#) the web development world," said Anastasia Stefanuk in *Simple Programmer*.

In further detail, according to descriptions, each course covers how code works, and it goes over animations, drawing shapes and creating more complex functions. One develops confidence to play around to build interactive animations.

Dani Deahl in *The Verge* called attention to another valuable aspect of Grasshopper—drawing on reward structures that many mobile games rely on. Deahl wrote, "there's also an [achievements](#) section within Grasshopper. Here, you can see how many concepts you've unlocked, the number of JavaScript keys you've used, and how many days long your current [coding](#) streak is."

In the next couple of months, said the team, expect additional content in The [Fundamentals](#).

More information: grasshopper.codes/

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